

NJPEP's May 2003 Newsletter (<http://www.njpep.org>)

FOCUS ON LANGUAGE ARTS and PIPs!

BUT FIRST...FROM NEW JERSEY

New lesson plan by a New Jersey teacher: [Create A Gadget!](#) – by Heidi Wagner from S. Harrison Elementary School in Gloucester County. This is a 4th grade activity in which students are able to create a gadget that consists of at least one simple machine. It supports Standard 5.1.4.A.1. Thank you, Heidi! You can find this lesson in two places:

i) On our Content page - go to Educators/Content/

<http://www.njpep.org/Educators/content/index.htm> and check under NJ Activities/Science.

ii) In our Standards Resource – go to Educators/Standards

(<http://www.njpep.org/Standards/index.html>) , enter the New Standards Resource, and search for 'gadget' in the resources, or go to Science, and find it under standard 5.1 in grade 4.

Teachers: if you would like to submit a lesson plan, please use NJPEP's template – so that all other teachers can benefit from your expertise and imagination. We'll put the lesson on the NJPEP site and in the Standards Resource <http://education.state.nj.us/njsdb/>

LAL: READING AND WRITING INFORMATION FOR...

A) HIGH SCHOOLS:

(i) [The National Commission on Writing in America's Schools and Colleges](#): a report and agenda to support a writing revolution and in order to support the new writing assessment which is to be part of the 2005 SAT. <http://www.writingcommission.org/>

(ii) **NJPEP support:** See NJPEP/Educator/Assessment and choose [Writing and Rubric Assistance](#). You'll find help with the holistic rubric as well as other useful information.

B) ELEMENTARY

i) [Starfall](http://www.starfall.com/) (<http://www.starfall.com/>): online interactive books and word games.

ii) **NJPEP support:** to see if the young child is ready to read, go to NJPEP/Educator/Ed Research (<http://www.njpep.org/Educators/edresearch/index.html>) and choose [Early Reading and Literacy](#) and then scroll down to Screening Tools and Research . The [Get Ready to Read!SM Screening Tool](#) is excellent!

C) MIDDLE

i) [Merit Software](http://www.meritsoftware.com/solutions/middle_school/index.htm) (http://www.meritsoftware.com/solutions/middle_school/index.htm): remediation and enrichment support. (Also available for other school levels.)

ii) **NJPEP support:** for homework help, go to NJPEP/Parents_Students and choose Homework Help (<http://www.njpep.org/Educators/HomeworkHelp/index.htm>), then Language Arts Literacy. You'll find excellent resources in the 'general' section.

D) EVERYONE!

i) Visit New Jersey (<http://www.state.nj.us/travel/>) – a great resource for your summer activities!

ii) **NJPEP support:** See NJPEP/Parents_Students and choose FieldTrips (<http://www.njpep.org/Community/fieldTrip/index.html>) to find a trip in the county you'd like to visit!

TWO REMINDERS – as you prepare your PIP

i) Check the new section – [Meeting New Jersey's Professional Development Standards](http://www.njpep.org/Educators/ProfDev/Standards/index.html) (<http://www.njpep.org/Educators/ProfDev/Standards/index.html>) to find online ways of meeting your PIP goals.

ii) Check, again, NJPEP's [Opportunities](http://www.njpep.org/Workshops/Opportunities.htm) page to see where you can still enroll. (<http://www.njpep.org/Workshops/Opportunities.htm>). We have made new additions!

iii) Try enrolling in [online courses](http://www.njpep.org/Educators/ProfDev/OnlineCourses/index.html)!
<http://www.njpep.org/Educators/ProfDev/OnlineCourses/index.html>